

REMARKS

Main claim 14 was amended to include the subject matter of claim 17. Entry of this amendment is as a matter of right since no new issues are being presented. The dependency of claim 16 was amended as proposed by the Examiner.

Amended claim 14 emphasizes that it is the "user" who enters the event date, as well as the reminder date. In U.S. Patent No. 6,134,548 to Gottsman, as the Examiner noted with reference to column 37, lines 58-60 and 63-65, the user inputs his/her "intentions" which are the "user's preferences as reflected in the user's profile". The user's profile 1200 describes the user and his/her account information (col. 34, lines 45-46). An intention database 1030 stores intention steps, areas of interest, layout templates and personalization templates (col. 33, lines 15-29). A content database 1040 stores advice, referral information, personalized content, satisfaction ratings, product ratings and progress reports (col. 33, lines 20-24). Applicant can find no specific reference in Gottsman to the user entering an event date or a reminder date.

Indeed, Gottsman describes a system in which suppliers report products requested by the user. At best, the suppliers will report whether the requested products are available or back-ordered. Hence, in Gottsman, no search is based on a user-inputted event date by which product/service delivery is to be completed.

With respect to col. 39, lines 27-30, the Examiner noted that Gottsman's system provides the user with "tips". Yet, tip 2395 in Fig. 23 has nothing to do with reminder dates as suggested by the Examiner, but instead, relates to changing insurance coverage. Indeed, since Gottsman does not teach the entry of either an event date or a reminder date "by the user", Gottsman's system could not provide a "reminder tip" as proposed by the Examiner.

Wherefore, a favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

KIRSCHSTEIN, OTTINGER, ISRAEL & SCHIFFMILLER, P.C.

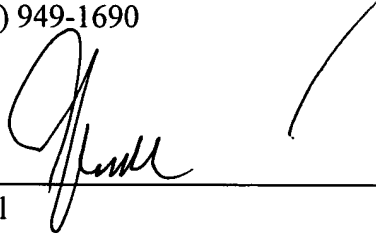
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

489 Fifth Avenue

New York, New York 10017-6105

Tel: (212) 697-3750

Fax: (212) 949-1690

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Israel', is written over a horizontal line.

Alan Israel

Reg. No. 27,564

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

14. (Amended) A method of processing a scheduled transaction on an online network, comprising the steps of:

a) providing a user with a terminal having a display, a programmed processor for displaying a scheduled transaction request having data fields on the display, and a memory for storing identity information of the user;

b) manually entering user data, including an event date and a reminder date that predates the event date, in human-readable form in at least one of the data fields on the display by having the user operate a user interface on the terminal;

c) automatically entering reader data in human-readable form in at least another of the data fields on the display by capturing the reader data encoded in machine-readable indicia scanned and read by an electro-optical reader provided on the terminal;

d) verifying the user data and the reader data entered in the respective data fields by visual inspection by the user to obtain verified data;

e) submitting the verified data and the identity information by wireless transmission to a programmed server on the network;

f) searching databases on the network for potential suppliers of the scheduled transaction by the event date by operation of the server;

g) displaying the potential suppliers on the display of the terminal for selection by the user;

h) placing an order for the scheduled transaction after selection of at least one of the suppliers by the user; and

i) delivering the scheduled transaction by the event date.

16. (Amended) The method of claim [14] 15, wherein the hand-held device is a personal digital assistant configured to have a generally parallelepiped shape, and wherein the display is configured as a generally rectangular screen on a front wall of the assistant and facing the user in operation.